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13 January 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Special Presidential Committee to Investigate the Information Practices of the Federal Government

1. I spoke today with Mr. Macy and Mr. Schwarzwaldor of the Bureau of the Budget on the arrangements that are being made in preparation for the above Special Presidential Committee.

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2. I pointed out to them that [redacted] had advised me by telephone of some changes in this budget, and that I was going to New York on Wednesday, was taking the budget with me, and that I would go over it with him in order to have all the changes put into one package. I asked when it would be necessary for them to have the final figures, and Mr. Schwarzwaldor advised me that the Bureau of the Budget would take care of preparing the papers--as previously arranged--even if the final figures were not presented until the very last minute.

3. Mr. Schwarzwaldor told me that the Bureau of the Budget could prepare the directive establishing this Committee. He asked what form this directive would take, i.e., Presidential Letter of Executive Order. He is going to provide for me tomorrow Executive Orders which he thinks will be helpful for the Committee to review in deciding this question.

4. Mr. Schwarzwaldor also spoke to me in connection with the President's Emergency Fund. He pointed out that the fund was always subject to public examination and, therefore, kept as open as possible. He felt that President-elect Eisenhower should be advised of this, and I certainly agree.

5. The contents of either the Presidential Letter or Executive Order should include the mission of the Committee, restrictions on the Committee, and special compensation arrangements. I will discuss this with Mr. [redacted]

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6. Mr. Schwarzwaldor called and advised me that Executive Order No. 10392, Federal Reference Volume 17, No. 175, establishing the President's Commission on Immigration and Naturalization, was a "model." He feels that the establishment of the Special Presidential Committee to Investigate Information Practices of the Federal Government should be done by Executive Order. He pointed out that this was the neater way, that this would be President-elect Eisenhower's first committee, first use of the President's Emergency Fund, and that establishing the Committee by a Presidential Letter might attract either attention or investigation.

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Special Assistant to
Deputy Director (Administration)

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